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"Hard Days" Ahead

Theologian Says Strong View Of Scripture Needed

WASHINGTON, D. C. (RNS)—The "soft days" for evangelical Christians are "past," a leading evangelical Protestant scholar and author warned here.

Dr. Francis A. Schaeffer, founder and director of L'Abri Fellowship in Huemor, Switzerland, addressing the final session of the joint National Association of Evangelicals and National Religious Broadcasters convention, explained that only a "strong, uncompromising view of Scripture" will enable evangelicals to remain firm in their faith in Christ in the "hard days" he sees coming.

The theologian gave two reasons for holding a strong, uncompromising view of the Bible today:

"First and foremost, this is the only way to be faithful to what the Bible teaches about itself, and what Christ teaches about Scripture. This would be sufficient reason."

"Second, there are hard days ahead for us—for ourselves and our spiritual and physical chil-

dren. Without a strong view of Scripture as a base, we will not be ready for those hard days."

Dr. Schaeffer said that holding to a "strong view of Scripture or not holding to it is the watershed of the evangelical world."

But he added that "evangelicalism is not consistently evangelical unless there is a line drawn between those who take a full view of Scripture and those

who do not.

"The existential methodology (which states, among other things, that the Bible contains errors) has infiltrated the theology sometimes called evangelical," the theologian asserted.

"Unhappily," Dr. Schaeffer said, "this form of theology is now functioning in many places under the name of evangelicalism." He related that this trend began a few years ago when some theologians in evangelical circles started saying that "where the Bible touches history and the cosmos, there are mistakes, but, nevertheless, we can still hold onto the meaning and value system of the Bible."

Dr. Schaeffer said the Lausanne declaration of 1974 on the question of Biblical inerrancy is being misinterpreted in certain evangelical circles to allow for an existential interpretation of Scripture.

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Ford Urges A Return To "Faith Of Our Fathers"

WASHINGTON, D. C. — President Gerald Ford, quoting his favorite Bible passage, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart..." from Proverbs, reminded some 2,000 evangelical church leaders here Sunday night that despite much corruption and distrust in the land today, we can still believe in the "faith of our fathers, living still."

In a very warmly received address at the opening special

"Prayer for the Nation" service of the joint convention of the National Association of Evangelicals and National Religious Broadcasters here Feb. 22-23, the President said it was our duty to remember our religious heritage. He said that there was no less need for faith in God today than there was for the early colonists.

The underlying problem when he became President, Ford said, was a crisis of spirit in our nation. Indicating that this is a clear and current danger to any generation, he later joined hands with platform guests in a special prayer for the nation.

Small groups joined in prayer throughout the Shoreham Americana's ballroom led by Dr. Jess Moody, senior minister, First Baptist Church, West Palm Beach, Fla. "We are gathered here hand-in-hand and heart-to-heart with the one man for whom the American people pray most, our President. Give our President, Gerald Ford, a special touch of Your Holy Spirit to equip him for these burdens. Teach us that the United States is called U. S. be-

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High Court Will Not Stop Mass In University Dorm

WASHINGTON (BP) — A decision of the U. S. Supreme Court not to hear a case will permit a Roman Catholic priest to continue celebrating mass in a student dormitory at the University of Delaware.

Although the high court did not actually affirm the ruling of the Delaware Supreme Court holding the religious services constitutional, the effect of the decision not to consider the case is to leave standing the lower court position.

The religious services have been conducted in a dormitory commons area since September 1973 by a priest from the Wilmington Diocese, with the approval of the Catholic chaplain assigned to the university. Upon the request of a number of students, the chaplain arranged for a priest to hold weekly mass on Sunday mornings.

The University of Delaware protested immediately, citing a provision in the school's charter which states that "the university shall never be managed or conducted in the interest of any party, sect or denomination."

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Pastors, Deacons And Wives Invited To 4-State Meet

A conference for pastors, deacons, and their wives in a four-state area will be held March 19 and 20 at Dauphin Way Baptist Church in Mobile, Ala.

Invited to participate in the conference are pastors, deacons, and their wives from Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana, and Florida.

Rev. Leon Emery, church administration consultant for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, said the conference is a joint project of the Mobile Baptist Association, the Alabama Baptist Convention, the Church Administration Department of the South-

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BSU Picks 38 Students As Summer Missionaries

Thirty-eight students from 16 colleges and universities will be sent by the Baptist Student Union of Mississippi to serve as missionaries this summer. Five will serve in foreign missions in five countries; thirty-three will serve as home missionaries in at least twenty-five states and in Puerto Rico.

Baptist Student Union summer missions is a program sponsored jointly by state Departments of

Student Work, National Student Ministries of the Baptist Sunday School Board of Nashville, the Home Mission Board, SBC, and the Foreign Mission Board, SBC.

The missionaries receive no salary. Room and board is furnished by the mission where the student works. Transportation and other expenses are provided by the missions offering gifts of Baptist Student Unions. No church

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Hancock Foundation Established To Support Agricultural Missions

STATE COLLEGE, MS — Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Hancock, Tupelo, Miss., have established a private foundation for the purpose of supporting agricultural missions in third world countries according to an announcement by Owen Cooper, president of Agricultural Missions Foundation, Limited, of Yazoo City. The new association, called the L. D. Hancock Foundation, will work through the already existing Agricultural Missions Foundation, Limited, with home offices in Yazoo City.

When announcing to the AMF Board of Directors his intention to make available a sizable amount of money as a permanent endowment, Hancock said, "I believe that agricultural missions, teaching people in under-developed countries how to better provide for themselves, is the most effective evangelism tool that I know anything about. It demonstrates real concern for physical needs and thereby makes it possible for those administering the program to share their love of our Lord." Hancock went on to say that he was pleased he was able to share

his bountiful blessings with less fortunate people around the world.

In accepting the challenge, AMF President Owen Cooper said, "There is practically no limit to

what can be done in meeting human and spiritual needs throughout the world if we have the vision and determination to do it. This added income on a regular

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Agricultural Missions Foundation Officers

Officers and directors of the Agricultural Missions Foundation, Ltd., are, left to right, Owen Cooper, director; Dr. James Anderson, vice president; L. D. Hancock, director; Glenn Heath, president; and Gene Triggs, secretary-treasurer.

Bell For Bible Conference

Mississippi's replica of the Liberty Bell will ring March 29 and 30 during the Mississippi Baptist Bicentennial Bible Conference at First Church, Jackson. Above the bell is being rung for the first time at the Southern Baptist Convention in June of 1975 in Miami Beach, Fla.

Man, Boy Rallies Begin April 1 In Lucedale

Beginning April 1 a series of six Man and Boy Rallies will be held over the State. There will be a rally in every region, as follows:

April 1, First Church, Lucedale
April 8, First Church, Magee
April 15, First Church, Kosciusko

April 22, First Church, Senatobia

April 29, First Church, Summit
May 6, First Church, Corinth
All will begin at 7 p.m.

Great Christian fellowship will be enjoyed at these meetings, because there will be food, recreation, exchange of ideas, mission challenge, and information, said Rev. Elmer Howell, director of the Brotherhood Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Dr. Loyd Corder, director of the Division of Associational Services of the Home Mission Board, will be an entertainment highlight at several of the rallies. He uses a wooden dummy, "Joe the

Baptist," in getting his message to people. Other entertainment personalities will be announced at a later date.

Rev. Mel Craft, pastor of Tybertown Baptist Church, and Dr. P. A. Michel, pastor of First Church, Brookhaven, will be two of the inspirational speakers who will be heard.

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Teacher Improvement Workshop Mar. 22-23

A state-wide Adult Sunday School Teaching Improvement Workshop will be held March 22-23 at First Baptist Church, Jackson.

Each session will be from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Jim Walter, adult consultant in the Sunday School Department of the Sunday School Board of the

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Haney, Wallace To Be Lay Renewal Speakers

A lay renewal leadership conference March 19 and 20 will be at South 28th Avenue Baptist Church in Hattiesburg.

Paul Harrell, consultant in the Brotherhood Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, said program personalities will include Emory Wallace, president of the Louisiana Baptist Convention and pastor of the First Baptist Church of DeRidder, La., and David Haney of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission in Memphis.

The program will begin at 7:30 p.m. March 19 and conclude at noon March 20. Rev. Jim Nunnelee is the host pastor.

Harrell said the conference will be primarily for pastors; church staff members; interested lay persons; and consultants, coordinators, and lay team members in lay renewal weekends. There will be conferences for all, Harrell indicated, along with pro-

gram features on renewal evangelism, lay renewal weekends, lifestyle evangelism and ministry, and renewal retreats.

Other conference personalities will include Sidney Ellis of

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Church Recreation Mini-Lab Scheduled At Alta Woods

Bob Sessoms and Everett B. Robertson, consultants in the Sunday School Board's Church Recreation Department, will headline a staff of outstanding church recreation leaders during a Church Recreation Mini-Lab in May, according to Norman A. Rodgers, Mississippi Consultant for Church Recreation.

Rodgers, who is a staff member of the Mississippi Church Training Department, responsible for youth work, states that this Mini-Lab will be held May 3-4 at Alta Woods Baptist Church. Starting time is 2 p.m. on Monday with adjournment scheduled for 5:30 on Tuesday.

Special features of the Mini-Lab include a general session on using drama in the church; an evening



Walter



Parrott

Southern Baptist Convention, and Dennis A. Parrott, minister of administration and adult education, Green Acres Baptist Church, Tyler, Texas, will lead the two night adult emphases.

The workshop is designed for adult teachers, adult department directors, ministers of education, pastors, and general Sunday

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of experiences in Church Recreation (including a devotional by puppet presentation, the presentation of a play, a session of music, and a planned fellowship); and conferences covering puppet construction, puppet production, dramatic games and improvisations, camping, retreats, social recreation.

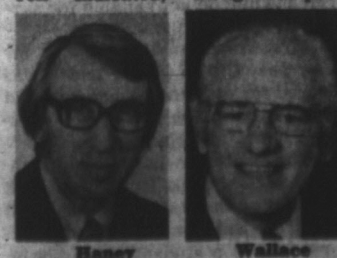
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Rodgers



Sessoms



Harrell



Wallace

SBC Churches Show Substantial Statistical Gains In 1975

NASHVILLE (BP) — Churches affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention reported substantial gains during 1975 in nearly every statistical category, according to final figures released by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's research services department.

Statistics compiled through reports received from the 34,902 Southern Baptist churches indicate significant increases in churches, baptisms, church membership, total receipts and mission expenditures and in Sunday School, church music, Woman's Missionary Union and Brotherhood enrollments.

The number of baptisms reported in 1975 by America's largest Protestant denomination — 421,809 or 2.8 percent increase — represent the third highest figure in SBC history. The record number of baptisms was recorded in 1972 with 445,725, surpassing the previous record of 429,063 in 1969. The 400,000 figure in baptisms has been exceeded each of the past five years. The convention has surpassed that mark only nine times in its 130-year existence.

Church membership increased 1.8 percent to a total of 12,735,063 members, representing nearly 220,000 additional members in SBC churches. The number of Southern Baptist churches reached 34,902, a gain of 168.

The statistics indicate a 9.9 percent increase in the denomination's total receipts, an increase

of more than \$132 million for a total of \$1,475,611,266 or 1975.

Mission gifts continued to increase, gaining more than \$18 million. That represents an 8.3 percent increase for a total of \$237,617,406 in mission gifts and marks the first time more than 30,000 churches have given through the Cooperative Program, the SBC's unified budget program.

Sunday School enrollment gained 90,073 members in 1975 for a total membership of 7,281,532, a 1.3 percent increase. This enrollment figure reflects the largest net gain since 1961, and marks the fourth consecutive year that Sunday School has gained in enrollment. Almost 34,000 churches, a gain of 241, reported Sunday School programs during the year.

Sunday School attendance through a bus program was reported by 6,737 churches, representing 266,604 persons attending on a weekly basis.

Church music enrollment, increasing 50,876 or 3.9 percent for a total of 1,354,944 members, has shown a gain for 10 straight years, averaging a 48,000-member increase a year. A total of 570 more Southern Baptist churches reported a music program in 1975 than in 1974.

Brotherhood, the Southern Baptist men's missions organization, gained 15,289 members for a total membership increase of 3.3 percent and enrollment of 476,002. A total of 365 more churches included Brotherhood in their church program during the year. Bro-

therhood enrollment has been gaining since 1971 following seven years of decline. The program had remained stable in 1974.

Woman's Missionary Union experienced an enrollment gain for the second straight year, following 10 years of decrease. WMU increased 18,438 members or 1.7 percent, for a total membership of 1,133,587. The number of churches with a WMU program increased by 374.

The only decrease reported by Southern Baptist churches was in Training Union enrollment. However, that organization experienced only a one percent de-

crease in membership. This continues a definite slowing trend in the Training Union decline and "hopefully forecasts a turnaround for that organization, Sunday School Board officials report.

The 1975 Training Union ongoing enrollment, which does not include new member, leader training, or short term member training registration, shows a loss of 18,809 (1.0 percent) for a total membership of 1,886,177. The one percent loss in 1975 compares to a 2.3 percent decrease in 1974 and a 4.6 percent decrease in 1973.

Missionary's Mother Dies of Burns In Jackson

Mrs. Shelby Frank (Francis P.) Myers, 67, of 4654 Summer Place Road in Jackson, died on February 18, as a result of burns she suffered on February 9. She was the mother of Rev. S. Payton Myers, missionary in Kaduna, Nigeria, West Africa. Because of a coup d'etat in Nigeria, Mr. Myers was not able to leave the country at the time of the accident or for the funeral. If the crisis within the government is ended, he should leave there on March 19, arriving in Mississippi on March 21, for a regularly scheduled furlough.

Memorial services were conducted in Wright and Ferguson Chapel by her pastor, Dr. Herman A. Milner, of Van Winkle Church, Jackson, and Dr. Joseph N. Triplett of First Church, Jackson. Mrs. Frank (Eva Aultman) Hart of Clinton, sang "Victory In Jesus." Interment was in Lakewood Memorial Park.

Mrs. Myers is also survived by another son, E. C. (Cople) Myers of Jackson; one daughter, Mrs. Winford B. (Becky) Lott of Jack-

son; seven grandchildren; four sisters; and one brother.

The former Francis Leo Paxton, a native of Brookhaven, she had lived in Jackson for over 40 years. She was the widow of Shelby Frank Myers, who died in March 1968. She was an active member of Van Winkle Baptist Church.

Church Recreation Mini-Lab Scheduled

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tion, crafts and hobbies, and sports and games.

Seasons joined the Sunday School Board's Church Recreation Department staff in 1972 after serving as minister of recreation for First Baptist Church, Greensboro, North Carolina, and First Baptist Church, Memphis.

Robertson went to the Board in 1974 from Wayland Baptist College, Plainview, Texas, where he was director of theatre. He has had experience with the Utah Shakespeare Festival and the Victoria (British Columbia) Repertory. His assignment is drama coordinator with the department.

Agricultural Missions Foundation Established

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basis can be the seed that will grow and make possible the production of more and broader support for missionary activity.

The objectives and purposes of AMF are to offer supplemental support to Southern Baptist missionaries doing agricultural work by providing additional money for special projects such as seed, fertilizer, livestock, rabbits, poultry, silk worms, water wells, and farm equipment. The progress of AMF will be greatly accelerated through the establishment of the special fund by Mr. and Mrs. Hancock, Cooper pointed out.

The officers and directors of the L. D. Hancock Foundation, all from Mississippi, are Glenn Heath, president, Starkville; Dr. James Anderson, vice president, Mississippi State University; Gene Triggs, secretary-treasurer, Yazoo City; Owne Cooper, director, Yazoo City; and L. D. Hancock, director, Tupelo.

Ford Urges Return To Faith Of Fathers

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cause it is a gift to us from You."

The keynote address was given by Congressman John Conlan (R-Az.) following a prolonged period of prayer by the delegates. Conlan said, "There are an estimated 15 million unregistered voters among evangelicals' 40 million adults, who could turn the tide of this nation." He urged pastors and broadcasters to make a concerted effort to get unregistered voters to register, and to become more actively involved in local, state, and national issues. "Movements which affect political decisions do not begin in Washington," he said, "but out there among the voters."

Conlan's message was punctuated by applause as he repeatedly underscored the danger of big government versus local control and the involvement of Christians on issues in their communities where there is the greatest resource for change.

The four day convention marks the first joint annual meetings of the NAE-NRB. NAE provides evangelical identification for some 30,000 churches from 65 denominations. NRB's membership includes some 650 broadcasters and program producers.



Age-Group Training at Baptist Building

Age Group Specialists Meet In Training Session

A state-wide training meeting Feb. 16 for Sunday School Special workers involved 45 age group specialists in a one-day training session involving general and specialized methods and teaching procedures in Sunday School work.

The meeting was held in the Baptist Building.

Leading the four age-group conferences from the Sunday School Department in Nashville were Janet Abernathy, preschool consultant; Al Brewer, children's consultant; Keith Wilkinson, youth consultant; and Jim Walter, adult consultant.

Mississippi Special Workers attending the Sunday School training meeting by age groups were as follows:

Preschool: Mrs. Clayton Bath, Tchula; Mrs. Jay Chance, Starkville; Sue Rother, Jackson; Patsy Wilson, Jackson; Myra Raddin, Greenville; Cathryn Waites, Hattiesburg; Peggy Ward, Vicksburg; Dot Edwards, Jackson; Linda Myers, Natchez; Mignonette Tadlock, Jackson; Elmo McLaurin, Meridian; and Polly Morrow, Jackson.

Children: Vivian Reeves, Jackson; Margaret Ann Cummings, Clinton; Pam Sullivan, Clinton; Evelyn Vaughn, Jackson; Chris

Burns Jr., Ellisville; and Clara Walker, Jackson.

Youth: Darlene Muirhead, Vicksburg; Mrs. Marty Perkins, Moss Point, Harrell Wilcox; Rita Fisher, Indianola; Mrs. Jackie Haney, Philadelphia; David Deal, Water Valley; Darrel Baergen, Laurel; Shelia Hyde, Greenville; and Jennifer Trussell, Brandon.

Adult: Billy Davis, Greenville; Ferrell Cork Jr., Aberdeen; Phil Myers, Natchez; Gene Hendrix, Clinton; Farrell Blankenship, Hattiesburg; Harold Fleming, McComb; and Neron Smith, Natchez.

The Sunday School Department staff included Bryant Cummings, director; Billy Hudgens, consultant; Judd Allen, consultant; Larry Salter, consultant; Mrs. Roy Wornack, secretary; and Miss Evelyn Redd, secretary.

Aultman Resigns 1st, Columbia

After a pastorate of almost eighteen years, Dr. Howard Aultman has resigned at First Baptist Church, Columbia. This has been the longest pastorate in the 93 year history of the church.

Aultman is a native of Lamar County, Mississippi, and a graduate of Mississippi College, and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He also attended Duke University and received a DD from Mississippi College.

Before assuming the pastorate of the Columbia church in 1958, Aultman had served as Director of Youth and Music for Dauphin Way Baptist Church, Mobile, and as pastor at First Baptist Church, Holly Springs, and at Harrisburg Church in Tupelo.

During his years at Columbia the church erected a new sanctuary with a value of more than \$600,000, erected a new pastor's home, and made other property improvements. Property value grew from about \$260,000 to approximately \$1,000,000 today.

Total gifts of the church grew from \$109,000 his first year, to \$324,883, in 1975. Total missions gifts in 1958 were \$23,662 and this had increased to \$79,464 in 1975.

Total receipts for the nearly 18 years were more than \$3,429,000, while mission gifts totaled more than \$800,000.

During the years there were 1837 baptisms, and 1464 other additions, bringing the total to 3301. Membership has grown from about 1900 to more than 2300.

The church has established a mission, set up a bus ministry, and provided a day care and kindergarten ministry.

Fifteen young people have been licensed and/or ordained by the church.

The church remodeled an older home to be a home for furloughing missionaries. The only US-2 couple, working with the Home Mission Board, in the state right now, works with the Columbia church.

During this pastorate, Dr. Aultman has served one term as vice-president of the Southern Baptist Convention, and has served on the Mississippi College board of directors for 15 years.

He has held about 100 revivals in approximately 10 states, and has made a trip to the Holy Land.

Aultman says that his future plans are not definite, but that he will consider entering into another pastorate. He also is considering full time evangelism, and may set up the Howard Aultman Evangelistic Association. Meanwhile he is available for supply and interim ministries.

Mrs. Aultman has been ill for the past fifteen years, and was cared for at home by her husband for 14 years. She now is in a nursing home in Columbia.

The Aultmans have one daughter, Mrs. Frank Hart, who is pianist on the staff of First Baptist Church, Jackson, and a son Jerry, who is a student at Mississippi College.

Pastors, Deacons, And Wives Invited To Four-State Meet

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ern Baptist Sunday School Board, and the church administration consultants of the adjoining states.

No reservations are necessary, Rev. Emery said, unless the participants planned to attend a dinner at 6 p.m. March 19.

The program will get under way at 7 p.m. and conclude at noon on March 20.

Lambert Mims, Brotherhood director for the Mobile Baptist Association, will be in charge of the program. A Mississippi personal-

ity on the program will be Mrs. Martha Nelson, a writer and wife of the pastor of First Baptist Church, Pelahatchie.

Other program personalities include A. Morgan Brian Jr. of New Orleans, Reuben Herring of the Sunday School Board, and Francis Martin of Belmont College in Nashville, Tenn.

Teacher Improvement Workshop

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School leaders.

The purpose of the workshop will be to lead Adult Sunday School workers to analyze the teaching-learning process and to determine ways to improve that process in adult classes and departments.

The program content for the two nights will offer the teaching-learning process for adults, quality of life of the teacher, the Adult class: a caring community, how to equip members to be of maximum help to each other, skills in group process (methods); and create a climate for learning.

Consultation conferences for adult leadership on Tuesday morning may be scheduled in advance by writing or calling the state Sunday School Department.

The Adult Workshop is a joint promotion between the Mississippi Sunday School Department and the Sunday School Department in Nashville, Tennessee.

Theologian Says Strong View Of Scripture Needed

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"Because of the widely accepted existential methodology in certain parts of the evangelical community," he observed, "in themselves, the old words, 'infallibility,' 'inerrancy,' and 'without error' (in reference to the Bible) are meaningless today — unless some such awkward phrase is added as, 'The Bible is without error not only when it speaks of values and meaning and on religious matters, but (also) when it speaks of history and the cosmos as well.'"

"Let me say with tears," Dr. Schaeffer said, that "evangelicalism today, although growing in numbers and name throughout the world, is not unitedly and clearly standing for a strong view of Scripture."



Religious Education Officers

New officers of the Mississippi Baptist Religious Education Association are, left to right, Larry Salter, consultant in the Sunday School Department, secretary-treasurer; Lurline Tapley, education director, 38th Avenue Church, Hattiesburg, vice president; James Webster, education director, Parkway Church, Jackson, president elect; and Bert Jones, associate pastor and education director, First Church, Laurel. The officers were elected at the association's annual meeting in Biloxi.



Entertainment For Religious Educators

A Christian contemporary musical group called Charity, based in Hattiesburg, performed at the annual banquet of the Mississippi Baptist Religious Education Association.



Speaker For Educators

Dr. Findley Edge, professor at Southern Seminary, was one of the featured speakers for the Mississippi Baptist Religious Education Association Annual Meeting. He spoke at the banquet on Friday evening, above, and again on Saturday morning.

"Committee Of Seven"

Reports On SBC Executive Committee Study

NASHVILLE (BP) — A Committee of Seven appointed two years ago to study the Southern Baptist Executive Committee and a possible name change for the SBC released a report here making 12 suggestions and five recommendations concerning the Executive Committee.

The committee, chaired by C. R. Daley of Middletown, Ky., editor of the Western Recorder, Kentucky Baptist state paper, completed the first part of its study last year. The 1975 session of the Southern Baptist Convention, meeting in Miami Beach, approved a committee recommendation that no name change be considered for the 12.7-million-member denomination.

After requesting and receiving an additional year to complete its study of the Executive Committee, the Committee of Seven conducted extensive interviews and research into the operation of the Executive Committee.

Basically, the study suggests such things as broadening the base of selection of Executive Committee members, broadening scope and depth in pre and post election orientation of members, increasing involvement of members in the decision-making process, improving communications and cooperation between the committee and agencies, involving all the committee members in studying agency budget requests, keeping the authority of the committee in "healthy tension" with the authority of convention-elected trustees of agencies, clarifying

what the committee's "ad interim" status means, and clarifying what authority the committee has to look into the affairs of an agency.

Additionally, the Committee of Seven made several recommendations for changes in SBC Bylaw nine, which deals with the relationship of the Executive Committee to the convention and its agencies.

In a seven-point "affirmative appraisal" of the Executive Committee, the Committee of Seven also noted that the Executive Committee "is essentially sound," and that the committee is "indispensable in the life of the Southern Baptist Convention," that it is "blessed with highly capable and committed professional staff members" who "sincerely execute their assignments and attempt to be fair and impartial toward all agencies," that it "is endeavoring to perform faithfully the functions assigned to it by the convention," and that it exercises a policy of openness to concerned constituents.

The study was requested by the Executive Committee at the 1974 SBC meeting in Dallas, after an Executive Committee-appointed Committee of 15 completed a four-year study of convention agencies.

The Committee of Seven's report, which is subject to revision through March 1, was received by the Executive Committee at its February meeting here.

It will recommend to the 1976

convention in Norfolk, June 15-17, that the study be referred to the Executive Committee for consideration and that it bring a report on its response to the 1977 SBC meeting in Kansas City.

Elaborating on its suggestions, the Committee of Seven noted that broadening the base of selection for Executive Committee members will reduce the possibility "for personal favoritism and cronyism in the selection of nominees."

It suggested that adequate biographical data and other pertinent information on all Executive committee nominees go to all members of the SBC Committee on Boards, Commissions, and Standing Committees. Currently, the committee said, nominees from the various states and their qualifications are known only by the two members on the Committee on Boards from those states.

On pre and post election orientation, the committee noted that strong pre-election orientation would tend to weed out those not willing to fulfill the demands and responsibilities of the position. Stronger post-election orientation, it said, would improve knowledge of the relationship of the Executive committee to the agencies. The committee suggested inviting agency representatives to take part in such orientation.

The Committee of Seven noted the Executive committee as it now functions "is strongly staff oriented" because most members "devote full time to other responsibilities and find limited time for

their Executive Committee duties." It suggested several ways to achieve more involvement of members, including possible "use of a small group of experienced Executive Committee members to meet with professional staff as needed between regular sessions of the committee."

The committee also suggested that ways "be devised for the Executive committee staff and members and agency staffs and trustees to be more intimately acquainted with the work of each other." It noted that "agencies feel their situations are not always understood by members of the Executive Committee. They believe that Executive Committee members should be familiar with the particular program and problems of each agency. Executive Committee members, on the other hand, sometimes feel they do not have adequate information to respond intelligently to proposals related to the agencies."

Commenting that "the one most far-reaching responsibility of the Executive Committee is the recommendation of allocations for all convention agencies receiving Co-operative Program funds," the Committee of Seven suggested that the whole Executive Committee, rather than just its program subcommittee, hear such requests. It also recommended revision in subcommittee names to make their function more clear.

On the question of authority, the Committee of Seven said, "The Southern Baptist Convention began and remains a voluntary as-

sociation of churches. However, as such a group increases in size and complexity, its center of power tends to shift from 'grass roots' constituents to officially elected board members and to staff personnel."

"By virtue of its assignments the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee is powerful. It needs and does have authority commensurate with its responsibilities."

"Caution should be taken," the committee said, "to prevent even an unconscious trend toward undue centralization of authority in Southern Baptist organizational life. The usurpation of undue authority by the Executive Committee over the agencies would be disastrous."

"At the same time, the agencies should recognize the need for the convention to exercise reasonable review of their affairs. The authority of the Executive Committee should be kept in healthy tension with the authority of convention-elected trustees of the agencies."

Several other suggestions also dealt with clarifications which would interpret Executive Committee authority versus agency authority.

Bylaw nine (5) (a) states that the Executive Committee is to "act for the Convention ad interim on all matters not otherwise provided for..." The Committee of Seven noted that "acting for the Convention ad interim" is not "being the Convention ad interim" and called for clarification of this

point. The committee also commented that a fine line exists on "where the authority derived from the principle of trusteeship and the Convention-assigned responsibility of the Executive Committee meet. Such tension at this point is almost inevitable and it is altogether undesirable. Such a polity furnishes checks and balances necessary to preserve the freedom and the autonomy in Southern Baptist life."

The committee noted "considerable concern among the agencies over possible recommendations of the Executive Committee which might alter the programs of or even abolish an agency. Some early proposals of the study Committee of 15 (which unsuccessfully either recommended certain agencies cease of transfer duties to the Executive Committee) have suggested this."

It called for clarifications of various parts of Bylaw Nine in such areas as the role of the Executive Committee and the trustees of convention agencies, its advisory capacity and its authority and power. Among revisions, the most drastic, Daley said, involves Bylaw Nine (5) (1). The effect of the wording changes, Daley said, "Would tone down the investigative powers of the Executive Committee and reassert the authority of agency trustees, while still recognizing the Executive Committee's responsibility to study the affairs of the agencies and make recommendations to the convention."



Memorial Magnolias

The Belhaven Garden Club has planted three magnolias on the grounds of Mississippi Baptist Medical Center in memory of three deceased members of the club and as a gift to the new medical center. From left to right are Mrs. Lester L. Johnston, chairman of the project; Dr. Joe N. Triplitt, associate pastor, First Baptist Church; Lester L. Johnston; Mrs. Sidney Robinson Sr.; Eudora Welty; Mrs. Walter Welty; Mrs. Henry P. Mills, president of the club; Dr. Leonard Posey Jr.; Mrs. Leonard Posey; Jr.; Mrs. W. G. Eckles; Mrs. Clarence Hamilton; Paul J. Pryor, executive director of the Mississippi Baptist Medical Center; and Mrs. Robert Hederman, Jr. The trees were planted in memory of Mrs. Hiram H. Creekmore (1878-1971), mother of Mrs. Walter Welty; Mrs. Christian Webb Welty (1883-1965), mother of Eudora Welty and founder of the Belhaven Garden Club; and Mrs. Ernest Leonard Posey (1891-1971), mother of Dr. Posey.

BSU Selects Thirty-Eight Students As Summer Missionaries For 1976

(Continued from page 1)

is solicited for contributions. The financial goal this year is \$22,017.76 (the 17.76 being added to the \$22,000 as a patriotic gesture.) The place of service, home, hometown, and school of each Mississippi summer missionary follows:

Bangladesh, Richard Axtell, Clinton, Mississippi College; Israel, Phyllis Mullins, Monticello, Northwest; Liberia, Janie Boykin, Mize, USM; Switzerland, Donald Richards, Fort Walton Beach, Fla., William Carey; Tanzania, Sherry Berryman, Southaven, Northwest; Alaska, Mark White, McComb, Ole Miss; Arizona, Kent Mummert, Memphis,

Mississippi College; Arizona, Cynthia Gardner, McComb, Southwest;

California, Frank Page, Jr., Arroyo, MSU; Colorado, George Clayton Brooks, Hollandale, MDJC; Colorado, Melody McLeMore, Sardis, Ole Miss; Georgia, Robert Ramey, Southaven, Mississippi College; Hawaii, James Otis Newell, Pascagoula, William Carey; Hawaii, Lori Anne Dean, Greenwood, Blue Mountain, Illinois, Ann McCormick, Jackson, Hinds; Iowa, Debra Lynn Huddleston, Booneville, Blue Mountain; Kansas-Nebraska, Rose Aldridge, Grenada, Blue Mountain; Kansas-Nebraska, James Gilbert

Hearn, Venus, Fla., Mississippi College; Kentucky, Lisa Joan Hlatt, Oxford, Clarke; Maryland, Sheila Dewese, Meridian; William Carey; Carol Jane Beatlie, Starkville, MSU;

Michigan, Debra Jean Baxter, Kosciusko, Mississippi College; Nevada, John Earl Cochran, Fulton, Itawamba; New England (Vermont), Terrel Alan Dent, Holly Springs, Mississippi College; New England (Maine), Lisa Brannan, Lucedale, William Carey; New England (Connecticut), Mary Joy Jennings, Brandon, MSU; New England (Rhode Island), James Randy Davis, Wesson, DSU;

New York, Renelda Pharr, Belmont, Blue Mountain; Northwest, Lawanda Brown, Forest, Ole Miss; Northwest, Sharon Smith, Poplarville, Pearl River; Northwest, John Andrew Maxwell, Webb, Ole Miss; Pennsylvania, James Peters, Pioneer, La., Mississippi College; Pennsylvania, Debora Lynn Penn, Canton, MUW; Puerto Rico, Kenneth Michel, Brookhaven, Ole Miss; Utah-Idaho, Pamela Eurlison, Booneville, Northeast; Virginia, Stephen Glenn Hooker, Biloxi, Mississippi College; West Virginia, Phyllis Jewell, Columbus, MUW; West Virginia, Donald Ray Weber, McComb, Mississippi College.



Axtell

Michel

Brooks

Berryman

Cochran

Jewell



Boykin

Aldridge

Eurlison

Dean

Hlatt

Davis

Jennings

White



Hederman

Mummert

Pharr

Mullins

Gardner

Dewese

Ramey

Smith

Court To Rule On State Aid To Church Colleges

By Stan L. Hasty

WASHINGTON (BP)—Attorneys for proponents and opponents of state financial aid to denominational colleges argued their cases before the U. S. Supreme Court here. The high court will now decide on the constitutionality of such aid before its adjournment in late Spring.

The case in question came to the court from Maryland, where a program of direct financial aid to all private colleges and universities, including sectarian institutions, has been in effect since 1971. The disputed public funds may be used largely at the discretion of college officials.

One important exception imposed by a federal district court stipulates that the state funds may

"an excessive governmental entanglement with religion."

Only once before has the Supreme Court dealt with the question of the constitutionality of government funding of private colleges and universities. In 1971, a divided court held that private schools were free to accept federal construction grants under the Higher Education Facilities Act of 1963.

That decision, by a 5-4 margin, left the court subject to change in the other direction by the shift of only one vote. The recent retirement of Justice William O. Douglas, who staunchly opposed all programs of aid to non-public schools, may turn out to be a key factor in the direction the court takes.

The Baptist Joint Committee on

The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

EDITORIAL

Concerning Two Bills

We are receiving much mail concerning the CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICE ACT OF 1975, and also have had some questions raised relative to the YOUTH CAMP SAFETY ACT. Both are bills which are under consideration by our national congress.

As we have sought to secure accurate information concerning these bills we have learned enough concerning them that we have come to feel that both need to be opposed. This does not mean that they necessarily are as bad as some of the form letters we are receiving suggest. The Baptist Joint Committee in Washington has reported that the "Child" bill does not include the objectionable provisions with which it has been charged. Dr. Clark J. Hensley of the Mississippi Baptist Christian Action Commission has said that his examination of the bill did not reveal some of the bad features which had been reported. He added, however, that from the reports he is receiving, the bill has no

chance of passing anyway.

However, the bills were discussed briefly by Congressman John Conlan of Arizona, when he spoke in Jackson recently, and he is against both. News reports reveal that Senator John Stennis is against the "Child" bill. We have written to Glendon McCullough of Baptist Brotherhood relative to the "Camp" bill, and he reported that one of his associates in the camping field, felt that such a bill could create problems for church and denominational camps which might find it difficult to meet all requirements specified in such a bill.

As we have considered both of these bills we have come to a studied conclusion that both of them should be defeated. The main problem is that they each set up a new bureaucratic regulatory body in Washington, and these can, no matter how well intentioned they may be, cause very serious problems for those involved. Already our lives and institutions are under enough

regulation from Washington and we do not need more.

This attitude does not mean that we do not want all children to have the very best opportunities possible, or that we do not want church supported camps to meet standard health, sanitation and safety regulations. We simply believe that there are enough such regulations now, and that more are not needed. Also, while the bills may not include all things with which they are charged, all too often the real meaning of a law is what the officials involved decide. An illustration is the school prayer ruling, which actually only forbade "official" prayers, but has come to be a means of practically eliminating all prayer from the schools. The problem is interpretation.

We do not need federal regulations reaching deeper and deeper into our lives, our homes or into our church supported institutions. These bills both should be defeated.

False Religions

The Bible clearly warns of the false religions which would arise in the latter days of the world's history. No one may dogmatically state that we are in the last days, but false religions do abound, and one could doubt if any period in history has seen such activity as we see today.

Some examples are having a widespread influence today. One is the "Moon" Unification church movement, which apparently is enlisting numerous young people, turning some against their parents, and using them to collect large sums of money for the founder and

the organization. The deceptiveness of the group is revealed in the fact that two or three years ago the leader appeared in Jackson, and was given a welcome, honorary citizenship, etc.

Another false religious movement is Transcendental Meditation, which clearly is a type of Hinduism. Under the leadership of an Indian Mystic, Maharishi Mahesh Yogi, this group has actually received grants from the federal government for teaching in public schools in some areas of our nation. The matter is now before the courts.

A third group is the "Satan Church" movement, which while not nearly so widespread, yet is reaching young people today, especially in the large cities.

All of these must be labeled for what they are... false religions, which are enemies of Christ and Christianity, and must be condemned by every follower of Jesus Christ.

Our Lord warned that they would come, and that we as Christians should beware of them. They are the work of Satan, and the influence they are having today is almost unbelievable.

meets every qualification that a secretary should possess.

I have told both her and her minister-husband that I think that it is ridiculous for her to have to seek employment just to make ends meet for their family. It is my firm belief that the first obligation of the minister's wife and any other wife is in the home. She is to support her husband and her family in all of their Christian efforts. When a minister's wife has to work away from home, she is removed from her duties as a minister's wife and mother.

It is time for us Christians to start returning to the Lord the title of our gross income that he has so clearly ordered. When we start returning to Him his tithe, and not until, such problems as outlined above and other problems will be cleared up. We as Christians must realize that the pastor's family has financial obligations and that it is the responsibility of the Church to meet his financial needs. It is also time for the leaders of our churches to realize that the Lord's business should be run as His business and with His leadership.

Woodrow W. Mathews
Utica, Ms.

Bible Study Materials Needed

Dear Editor:

Baptist churches in the Philippines are requesting surplus 1976 January Bible study materials to be used overseas in January 1977.

If your church or its members would like to share in this mission project, you may send study course books, maps, filmstrips, etc. directly. Mark all packages "USED BOOKS," or "USED EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS FOR RELIGIOUS USE ONLY." Send surface mail.

Send to: Todd Hamilton, Church Growth Office, Philippine Baptist Mission, 2444 Taft Avenue, Malate, Manila, Philippines 2801.

A letter of thanks acknowledging receipt of materials will be sent to each donor.

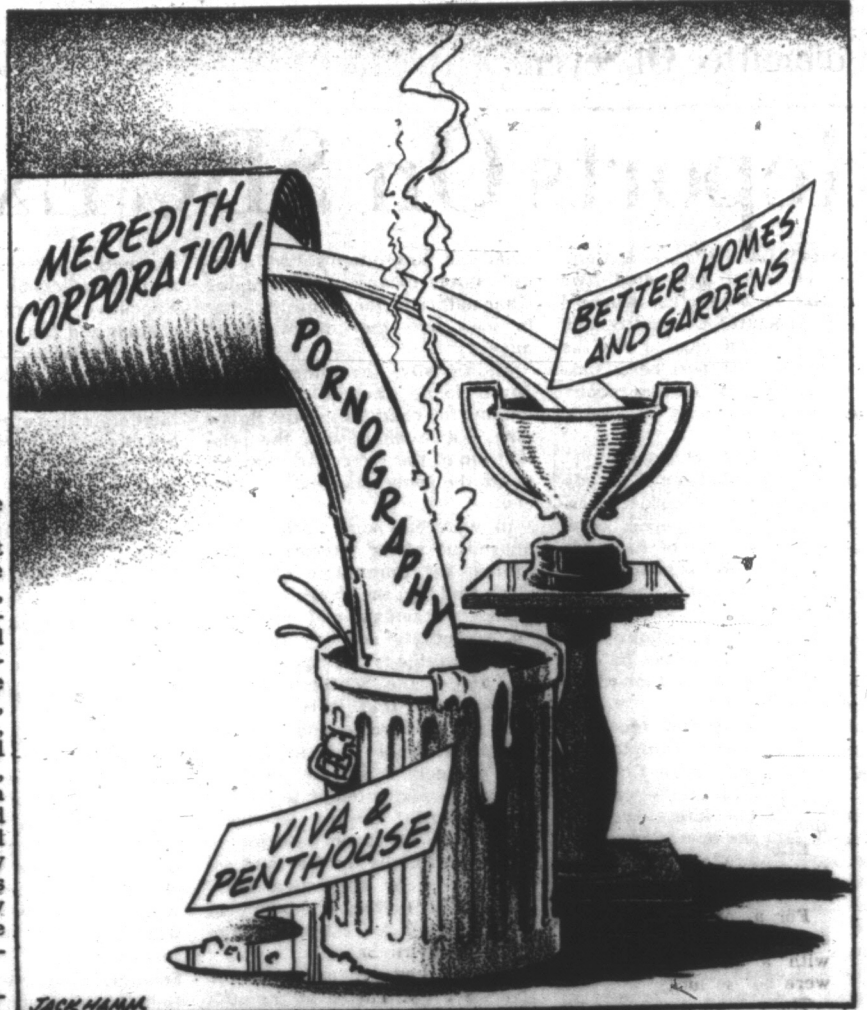
Todd C. Hamilton, Philippines

Long Or Short Sermons

Dear Sir:

I was impressed with the editorial in the Baptist Record on "Sermons Long or Short." Being a member of the congregation, I would like to express my views on the subject.

A God-called minister who has a message and has spent lots of time in study and prayer can keep his audience spellbound, and they will never think of time



FROM THE SAME PIPE

NEWEST BOOKS

YES, VIRGINIA, THERE IS A HELL by Harold T. Bryson (Broadman Press, paper, 147 pp.) The author is the former pastor of First Baptist Church, Carthage, Miss. He is now pastor of Eastdale Baptist Church in Montgomery, Ala. He has taken the well-known question relative to Santa Claus and used it as a springboard for discussing biblical statements concerning hell. In figuratively talking with the mythical Virginia, the author discusses the topics listed in chapters as "Yes, Virginia, There is a Hell," "People Think Differently About Hell," "The Serious Picture," "The Isolation Ward," "The Instant Replay," "Think Good about God," "Bad Words with More than Four Letters," and "Neither Fahrenheit nor Centigrade." The use of the "down-to-earth" title for the book allows the author to take a simplified and easily understood approach to his subject. This book contains a great deal of information in an easy-to-read form. The central theme of the book is that there should be no mistake — there is a hell.

THOSE CURIOUS NEW CULTS by William J. Petersen (Kens Fivet Books, pocket book, paper, 272 pp. \$1.95) A study of the many cults which are active in the world today. The book, which is in a new edition, includes chapters on Guru Maharaj Ji and Sun Myung Moon, and a presentation of the truth concerning these false-religious groups in the light of God's Word.

On The MORAL SCENE...

"PENTHOUSE" AND THE PRINTERS — The Meredith Corporation of Des Moines, Iowa, publisher of Successful Farming and Better Homes and Gardens, has fired eight employees who objected on religious and moral grounds to accepting work assignments on Viva and Penthouse, both printed under contract by Meredith. Two other employees resigned. Published by Penthouse International, Inc., of New York, the two magazines use photography featuring nudity. The corporation has maintained that it will not rehire the employees unless they consent to work on all the magazines it prints. William E. Macklin, a union officer and a 24-year employee who was fired, said that to continue working at Meredith under present policies would be "contributing to the moral degeneracy of the nation." Meredith has acknowledged receiving several hundred letters protesting the firings and canceling subscriptions to Better Homes and Gardens and Successful Farming. (The Christian Century, p. 143, February 18, 1976)

and he can deliver it within the allotted time. But when a preacher gets up unprepared and stumbles and stammers, repeating himself over and over, the congregation has no patience with that kind of preaching.

We are patient with some one just beginning to learn how to deliver his sermon. I have heard good long sermons and good short sermons, also sermons I could have done just as well not to have heard.

In my opinion, preaching is serious business. We have too many preachers nowadays who spend too much of their time looking at ball games on TV, and not putting enough time on their message. People go to the house of God to be fed spiritually and come away as hungry as ever.

There is no reason for poor preaching. They have the word of God and the Holy Spirit to guide them, and the scripture says, "If any lack wisdom, let him ask God." And if he wants to do a better job, that souls may be saved for the glory of God, then his prayer will be answered.

Name withheld



Bicentennial
Feature

Baptists Aid N. England Brethren

CHARLESTON, S. C., 1775 (BP) — South Carolina Baptists, indebted to the Baptists of New England for much of their heritage are making the most of an opportunity to repay that debt by answering an urgent call for help.

New England Baptists, particularly those in Massachusetts, are suffering from religious persecution by the state and the established church. South Carolina Baptists are responding to appeals for financial aid for the New Englanders.

The Carolinians have had a close kinship with their northern brethren for almost a century, as a congregation from Maine 90 years ago — in 1885 — established the first Baptist church in South Carolina. Even then the New England Baptists were suffering from oppression.

Baptists made a brave attempt to establish a church in Kittery, Maine, nearly 10 years ago but faced relentless persecution at the hands of the established church and civil authorities.

William Screven was pastor of the Kittery congregation. He was arrested repeatedly for preaching Baptist doctrines in Maine, and members of his congregation were fined and otherwise persecuted for attending Baptist services.

Screven and the First Baptist Church of Kittery finally left Maine as a body and settled in South Carolina in the 1890's. The Baptist minister was threatened with banishment before he left New England.

Although the New Englanders found life harsh in the South Carolina wilderness, religious freedom was worth the sacrifice. The church flourished and in 1781 the Charleston Association was formed by four Baptist churches.

The association pioneered in evangelism and education. John Gano served the association well as a missionary and the Carolinians have generously supported Rhode Island College, Baptists' first institution of higher learning.

While Baptists here and in other colonies are aiding New England Baptists in fighting for religious freedom, persecution has not been limited to that section by any means. Baptists from Maine to Georgia have suffered abuse and oppression.

Baptists have been whipped and driven out of New England, jailed in Virginia, and mistreated in Georgia. Rhode Island, founded by Baptist Roger Williams, is one of the few places where they have escaped persecution.

The ordeal of oppression has only strengthened Baptists, however, and united them in a firmer resolve to fight for a free church in a free state.

The Baptist Record

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Anne McWilliams Editorial Associate
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THE BAPTIST FORUM

Postmaster Defends Postal System

Dear Editor:

The Baptist Record has apparently launched a campaign against the Postal Service as has been witnessed in three recent publications. As a postmaster and a long-time recipient of your paper, I am quite disappointed that you would use a statewide religious paper, which I might add, enjoys the very best postal rates, to voice complaints that could probably be handled with your local post office. It is true that the cost of postal services has increased, but so have production materials, equipment, utilities, salaries, etc. Your readers are led to believe that postal rates are the major costs to publishing The Baptist Record. I think the average person would be surprised to learn the rates charged to religious, non-profit making second-class publishers.

It is certain that any job using human manpower will undergo errors from time to time. The Baptist Record has employees who label and bundle their papers according to cities. These same employees place these papers in sacks, labeled by them, according to destination. They, too, might err in the labeling of these sacks, thus, causing delay in the final delivery to the subscriber.

In response to the Billy Graham "addressee unknown" letter, it is possible that a postal clerk carelessly applied this endorsement to the letter while intending it for another. An inexcusable mistake, yes, but not one that warranted condemning the entire Postal Service. Our mistakes are embarrassing, but we are imperfect and other mistakes are inevitable.

Many times people move to other cities and request that only first class mail be forwarded (other classes of mail forwarded would be rated "postage due"). You mentioned in one of your articles, on the editorial page, that the post office does not try to deliver a paper when the addresses moves or changes addresses. This is not the case in most instances. Our business is to effect delivery when possible while at the same time encouraging correct addresses on all types of mail.

The Postal Service welcomes constructive criticism and suggestions, and realizes that justification of complaints is sometimes warranted, but I do not feel that The Baptist Record should include articles similar to those seen in recent issues.

Sincerely,
Charles H. Hughes
Postmaster
Greenville MS 38701

Pastor's Wife Appreciates "Salary" Article

Dear Dr. Odle:

Thank you, Mr. Ralph Duncan! I thoroughly enjoyed your article in the February 5th Baptist Record concerning the pastor's salary.

I am the wife of one of those pastors who never knows if his car will start when he needs to go someplace. Then if it does start, will it fall apart before it reaches its destination? Most of our church members have a new car and some of them have two or three.

We are provided a home to live in, half of our utilities paid and by today's standards, a small salary. We have no insurance as we cannot afford it and the church will not provide it. We have no retirement as we need all of our money to make ends meet. We live from paycheck to paycheck and still have to pinch pennies. We have a large family. Our children are small and I cannot work outside the home. I am a firm believer that a mother needs to be with her children as they are growing up. Working mothers are cheating themselves as well as their children.

Our church members say they cannot afford to give us a raise or pay all of our utilities as times are hard for them also. I find this very hard to believe as I look around me and see all that they have, the expensive vacations they take each year, and all of their new clothes.

Very few in our church claim to tithe and the ones that don't seem proud of the fact that they don't.

I wonder what the Lord must think of all this.

I am asking that my name not be printed because I feel it might help some church members to wonder if it was written by their pastor's wife and decide that they are not giving as they should or could to their church.

A Grateful Pastor's Wife

Presbyterian Approves Pastor's Salary Article

Dear Dr. Odle:

I read with great interest "A Plea to Churches for the Pastor's Salary" by Ralph Duncan that was in the February 5, 1976 issue of The Baptist Record. Although I am a Presbyterian, I think the article applies to all Protestant denominations.

For the past year I have had as my secretary a Baptist minister's wife. In my business career I have had three secretaries, but I rate her at the top. She

Death Toll Doesn't Describe Horror Of Guatemala Quake

By Charlie Warren

GUATEMALA CITY (BP) — The statistics are ghastly — 20,000 bodies pulled from the rubble, countless thousands injured, perhaps a million homeless.

But the horror of February's earthquake in Guatemala can't begin to be comprehended without an awareness of the suffering and uncertainty of the living.

Neither does the trauma and suffering rest exclusively with Guatemala's multitude of injured. In an earthquake, everyone suffers — especially the poor.

Many had very little before disaster struck. Now they have nothing.

The drama first began to etch its impression on my mind as I flew into Guatemala City. On the plane with us, fearful of what they would find, were those who had family members in the disaster-stricken Central American nation.

Efforts at communication with their relatives had been futile. Were they dead or alive?

For a fortunate few there was contact as loved ones met them with a warm embrace. Others were not so lucky.

The second nightmare hit me later the same day, hours after nightfall. As we walked among street after street of what used to be adobe homes, we saw thousands of people sleeping in the streets — in cars, in makeshift tents or in tin and cardboard lean-tos.

Our guide, A Clark Scanlon, the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's field representative of Middle America, made a disturbing observation.

For these people, he said, there's always been security in a roof and four walls. Now, even if the house is still standing, the roof and walls are objects to be feared. One more tremor may well be all it would take.

So, the people seek refuge in the streets.

An earthquake is so unpredictable — so uncontrollable. The victim is so utterly helpless.

Things that have always been considered permanent are proven to be temporary. The earth, taken for granted as a solid foundation, quivers under the feet.

When calm is nearly restored,

another tremor causes widespread panic. Will the next one be the worst yet?

To whom does one turn in such a crisis?

Scanlon told of one woman who dropped to her knees in the middle of the street — turning in desperation to God. She is somewhat typical of many who are turning to spiritual values.

For many, spiritual guidance came, along with food, shelter and medical care, from Southern Baptist missionaries and volunteers who ministered to broken bones, hungry stomachs and panic-stricken souls.

Bicentennial Meeting To View Baptist Heritage

NASHVILLE — "Baptists and the Struggle for Religious Liberty in Early America" is the theme of the 1976 joint meeting of the Historical Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention and the Southern Baptist Historical Society. The meeting will be held June 10-11 at the University of Richmond in Richmond, Va.

Speakers and their topics include "The Significance of the American Revolution in America History," W. Harrison Daniel, professor of history, University of Richmond, "Baptists and the Bicentennial," Robert A. Baker, professor of church history, Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas.

John S. Moore, pastor, Manly Memorial Baptist Church, Lexington, will speak on "The Struggle for Religious Freedom in Virginia," and William J. Reynolds, secretary, Church Music Department, Sunday School Board, SBC, will speak on "The Musical Heritage of Baptists in America."

"Reflections on the Role of Baptists in Politics and the Future of America" will be presented by Brooks Hays, former Congress-

man from Arkansas, and former president of the Southern Baptist Convention. Porter W. Routh, executive secretary - treasurer, Executive Committee, SBC, will speak on "The Role of the SBC Executive Committee in Southern Baptist life."

"The Historical Commission, SBC: Twenty-five Years of Service to Southern Baptists" will be discussed by a panel of three: Mrs. Louie Latimer Owens, South Carolina member of the Historical Commission, SBC; Leo T. Crismon, retired librarian, Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky.; and Lynn E. May, Jr., executive secretary, Historical Commission, SBC.

Other special features include a slide presentation on Baptist Heritage and the 1975 Baptist World Alliance, a visit to the Foreign Mission Board, and a tour of historical sites in the Richmond area.

Interested persons may obtain a pre-registration form and information about the meeting from the Historical Commission, SBC, 127 9th Avenue, N., Nashville, Tennessee 37234.



Participants in the joint meeting of the SBC Historical Commission and the Southern Baptist Historical Society, June 10-11, in Richmond, Va., will be (top row) W. Harrison Daniel, Robert A. Baker, John S. Moore, (bottom row) William J. Reynolds, Brooks Hays, and Porter W. Routh.



Chaplain Corps Began With Revolution

The American military chaplain corps, at least informally, can trace its history back to the start of the Revolutionary War. Four clergymen were among the rebels who engaged the British at Concord Bridge on April 19, 1775. By the following June, when George Washington was appointed to command the Continental forces, 15 ministers were voluntarily serving the spiritual needs of the army. Then, on July 29, 1775, the Continental Congress officially authorized chaplains for the army. This was followed on Nov. 28, 1775, when the second

article of "Navy Regulations" adopted by the Congress made provision for divine services afloat: "The commanders of the ships of the thirteen United Colonies are to take care that divine service be performed twice a day on board, and a sermon preached on Sundays, unless bad weather or other extraordinary accidents prevent." In this early 19th Century print, a Navy chaplain conducts a Sunday worship service on his ship's gun deck. (RNS Photo)

CBS President Lauds Baptist Broadcasting

FORT WORTH (BP) — The president of CBS Inc. said here that Southern Baptists have demonstrated "a flexibility and resourcefulness to reach out from church buildings to the needs of society at large."

Arthur R. Taylor, who addressed a national gathering of broadcasters attending the seventh annual national Abe Lincoln Awards, sponsored by the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, said the demonstration has been able "to extend the principles of Sunday morning to the way it lives all week long."

"You have made yours a church of not just buildings, but a church of the open air," he said. He was referring to the work of the Radio and Television Commission, whose programs are heard on public service time on

more than 3,710 radio and television stations across the country.

Taylor, who received a Distinguished Communications Merit Award from the commission for his work in helping establish the family viewing concept on television, had some comments about family viewing time.

He predicted that television's family viewing period will endure despite criticism and legal battles. He describes family viewing guidelines as "the most dramatic and far-reaching step in self-regulation in our industry's history."

"Family viewing is, in reality, simply the responsible exercise of broadcasters' obligations to the public," he said. "I do not believe it stifles creativity. I feel it stimulates talented individuals to

even greater heights because it closes off such easy plot-solving gimmicks as brutality."

"Admittedly, this family viewing time concept is not perfect. But it has been effective so far," he said.

He said a recent CBS study showed that overall the depiction of violence on the three national networks during prime time had dropped 30 percent from the previous year. And it dropped 39 percent on CBS alone, he said.

"Apparently the public shares our confidence in family viewing. A recent poll, taken for TV Guide magazine, showed 82 percent of the public supports family viewing and only seven percent is opposed to it."

"Television must discover new approaches for sustaining interest (Continued On Page 5)

Baptist History Writing Contest In Progress

Response to the "Baptist History Writing Contest," begun on May 1, 1975, as a Bicentennial project of the Historical Commission, SBC, has been most encouraging. Entries must be postmarked no later than April 30, 1976. To obtain details and an application blank write the Historical Commission, SBC 127 9th Ave., N., Nashville, Tennessee 37234.

The categories of eligible entries are: (A) Books dealing with the history of Baptist subjects, such as institutions, persons, issues, events or periods; (B) Histories of local churches and associations; and (C) Unpublished manuscripts (3,000 - 5,000 words) dealing with the same kinds of Baptist historical subjects as in category A.

Winners will be announced at the annual meeting of the Historical Commission, SBC, and Southern Baptist Historical Society at the University of Richmond in Richmond, Virginia, June 10-11. First place winners will receive plaques and cash awards (category A-\$175, B-\$150, C-\$100).

The Norman W. Cox Award for the best article published by the Historical Commission in 1975 will also be given at the annual meeting in Richmond.

The Gap

Prayer Chapel Dedicated

By Melissa Lake
In The Picaune Item

Searching for help?

Have more than your share of problems?

Then there's someone in Picaune who can help you.

Dial 796-1306 and you'll be greeted by an intercessory prayer voice, "God answers prayers," he will continue.

The voice is being heard each time the telephone rings from a small chapel called "The Gap."

"The Gap" houses an intercessory prayer ministry now being conducted by individuals in the Picaune area and is linked with a national group of 24-hour prayers.

The prayer chapel is located on

"Each telephone call is kept confidential and is recorded. And when prayers are answered, we're urging the people to let us know. We want to make a permanent record of each."

"We've had hundreds of requests already and if an intercessor is not available in the chapel, then requests will be taken by a Code-A-Phone system. It's our prayer secretary. These requests will then be recorded by an individual in the same way."

A file card system is also stationed in the chapel. Its cards are divided into three main groups: temporary, permanent and special. Each card contains a date of request and the request.

"The Gap" sits nestled in tall pines and is of octagon shape. The Led gave me the design for

Ezekiel 22:30 on the inside of the structure. Jeremiah 33:3 is also inscribed on the chapel's wall.

Inside the symbolic colors of red and white are used. And a large white cross dominates two walls of the structure. An altar holds, a telephone, the Code-A-Phone, the Bible, the prayer requests books and the rolodex file.

"We feel the chapel's beauty is beyond compare," Rev. Hickman said. "At night a shadow can be seen through the pines as the steeple reaches out."

"The \$7,000 structure was dedicated by Unity Baptist Church debt free."

"One Sunday out of the blue, God told me to approach Unity people about the chapel and its ministry," Rev. Hickman said. "I did. And on that very day the

Parables Of Repentance And Obedience

By Wm J. Falls
Matthew 21:6 to 22:14

Sixteen-year-old Roger knew the rules of the family about the car, but he had borrowed it while the rest of the family was visiting down the block. Dad was stern when Roger brought it home — later than he had intended. When Roger talked back instead of admitting he had overstepped his rights, there were harsh words. Roger stalked off to his room, and he was sullen at the evening meal. He had not hurt the car; no one was mad at him; the rest of the family tried to draw him into their conversation. But there was something wrong with the atmosphere — or with Roger. He felt he needed to do something to straighten out the way he felt toward his father.



It is not easy to repent.

The Lesson Explained
Jesus Asserts His Authority

Most of Jesus' ministry was in Galilee. Although he had brief times of work in Judea, he had to be away from the religious authorities so they would not interfere with his training of the twelve and his desire to heal the sick and feed the hungry. Furthermore, he needed time to make it clear what kind of Messiah he intended to be.

But in last Sunday's lesson it was beginning to be clear that Jesus felt that the time had come for him to confront those leaders in Jerusalem and to assert his authority as Lord. So, in 21:4-11 he made a triumphal entry into the city in a manner that had been described by the prophet Zechariah. In the Temple he made a one-man assault on merchants and money-changers. The next day he condemned a fruitless fig tree and cornered the chief priests when they asked by what authority he was acting. He refused to answer

their question.

Repentance Leads To Obedience
(21:28-32)

When Jesus' questioners were afraid to answer his question about the source of John's baptism (vv. 25-27), he knew they were not open to truth. They were hypocrites. They claimed to be committed to God but were unwilling to admit the work of God in John. So Jesus told a little parable to illustrate their distorted religious witness.

He pictured a father giving work assignments to two sons in the family vineyard. One refused at first but later admitted he was wrong. The other agreed quickly but never showed up for work. "The chief priests and elders" gave the right answer when Jesus asked which son obeyed his father. Then suddenly Jesus applied the parable in an unexpected way. Tax collectors and prostitutes entering the reign of God ahead of the priests and community leaders! Ridiculous! But Jesus went

on in words like these: "The despised people believed that John came from God, and they asked to be forgiven of their sins. But you won't let anything change your little self-centered minds." Judgment For The Unrepentant (21:33-41)

Repentance and obedience were woven together in the first parable; in this one we have an emphasis on judgment that will come to the unrepentant. Verse 33 is a concise description of the essential features of grape growing in ancient times. It has no hidden meanings; it adds color and authenticity to the parable. But the characters in the story are different; they do represent various persons. God is the owner of the vineyard — Israel. The rulers of Israel are the tenants. Of course, God had sent his prophets (servants) and at last his Son to receive the fruit of the vineyard. When the first tenants are expelled, the "other husband-men" (v. 41) will be the church begun by Christ. This parable is an al-

legory.

When Jesus finished the story, he asked what the owner of the vineyard would do to the cruel & unrepentant tenants, and the religious leaders of Israel pronounced a severe judgment, apparently not realizing that the story was aimed at them.

Churches May Use Warner-Tully YMCA Camp

Warner-Tully YMCA Camp will be available this spring and summer for interested Baptist churches across Mississippi. A number of churches held youth retreats there last year, according to Herb Wilkinson, executive director.

The camp is located 22 miles south of Vicksburg, six miles north of Port Gibson.

Facilities include eight modern cabins, olympic-sized pool, five-acre lake, lakeside chapel, dining hall, open-air pavilion, infirmary, all-electric kitchen, and large athletic field.

The camp provides "a full service" program including all food service, lifeguard, equipment, etc.

For further information, interested church groups may write the Junius Ward Johnson Memorial YMCA, 821 Clay Street, Vicksburg, MS 39180 or call 601-638-1071.

First, Pontotoc Mails Largest Offering Check

First Church, Pontotoc, mailed a check on February 10 in the amount of \$15,075.86 as their contribution in the recent Little Moon Christmas offering. With a goal of only \$6,000 set, more than \$8,000 was received in one day following a challenging missionary sermon by Dr. Larry Rohman, interim pastor. With accumulated interest, the final total reached \$15,075.86. This represented the largest amount ever contributed by First Church, Pontotoc, to a Little Moon Christmas offering in the long history of the church.

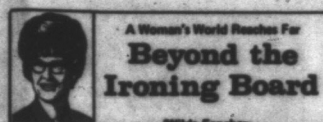
He was the toughest of the Nixon tough guys — a man who ruthlessly wielded the power of the Presidency. Then he discovered a higher power and found his life turned inside out.

Born Again by Charles W. Colson

Illustrated with
photographs. \$8.95

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chosen books
Distributed by Fleming H. Revell Company



When is success?
As soon as the votes are counted? After the term of office ends? When the history books are written?

When the baby is born sound and healthy? When the baby graduates from college? When the baby has his own half-million dollar business?

When the preacher delivers the eulogy?

After the curtain comes down? When the reviews are in?

Everybody keeps looking for success and nobody ever seems quite sure when it occurs. Sometimes we look at the top executive and think it's happened to him; then we look at the man who empties the executive's wastebasket and think, "It'll never happen to him. Yet there are times when, if two such people were placed on balance scales, we'd be surprised at the heavy weight."

Once, as a very young wife, heard the pastor of one of SBC's largest churches chide an audience of preachers about feeling insignificant because of being pastor at Third Church, Pig Trail (not the name he gave it, but the thought is the same — his name escapes me at the moment). I thought, Yeah, you can talk like that. I've lived long enough, though, to know many Third Church preachers whose contributions defy measure, whose children, too, are fabulous contributors to our world.

When is success? Some time almost every day. A little bit or a lot. But some time, almost every day. Maybe not exactly when we expect it, or how we expected it. But there it is, anyway. Not nearly as elusive as we make it.

Housewarming Welcomes Nerrens

WMU ladies of Macedonia Church, Lincoln County, sponsored a housewarming February 1 for their new pastor, Rev. Don Nerren, and his wife and daughter.

In the first four weeks after Pastor Nerren's arrival on the field, four people joined the church by letter and three on profession of faith.

The Nerrens moved to Macedonia from Sumrall.

Catherine
Marshall
Adventures
in Prayer

HERE COMES
THE

ASON

Sunday School Lesson: Life And Work-

Are You Ready?

By Bill Duncan
Matthew 24:42 to 25:13

During the Christmas season, my family and I attended an unusual wedding of a young couple.

As we sat waiting for the wedding to begin, you could feel expectation in the air. To my delight, as each bridesmaid came walking down the aisle, she carried a beautiful hurricane lamp with a candle lit and ribbons flowing down from the handle. I could never recall seeing this used before. It was beautiful. The thought of the parable Jesus told has crossed my mind many times since then.

The parable of the ten bridesmaids is one of the best known stories of the Bible. In Jesus' day the groom with his groomsmen would go to the bride's house, where she and her bridesmaids would be waiting, and the entire party would have a grand procession through the streets back to his house for a great marriage ceremony.

They had no street lights in that day and one of the chief functions of the bridesmaids was to carry lamps to light the way. In the story that Jesus told, the ten bridesmaids were at the bride's house with their lamps ready and waiting. They expected the groom at any moment, so they had their lamps lit. However, the groom was late in coming and all the bridesmaids went to sleep. It was midnight before the announcement was made, "Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him."

Immediately they arose and trimmed their lamps. But because of the long delay, the oil in their lamps was burned up. However, five of the bridesmaids were wise and had brought additional oil; so they quickly refilled their lamps and went out to meet the groom. The other five had not considered a long delay; so they brought no reserve supply. The foolish five begged to borrow from those who had brought an extra supply. But those who were wise said: "Not so, lest there be not enough for us and you: but, go ye rather to them

that sell and buy for yourselves." The foolish five went but found it difficult to buy at midnight. When they finally did get some oil and got back, they found the procession was over and the wedding had begun. They begged at the door to get in but the doorkeeper refused them, and they were left out in the dark.

The truth of this story is that those who want to be ready when the Lord comes must get ready before the Lord comes. It is too late to do anything about the fact after the moment of destiny has come. We can talk long and bad about the foolish bridesmaids who let their lamps burn when they could have put them out. We can debate about the reason for the groom's delay. But the truth is that all must be ready for a fact of life that Jesus Christ is coming back to carry his Bride to glory and only the prepared will be allowed to share the occasion.

We live in the light of that hopeful event. There is a note of urgency present in the Christian gospel that we must work while there is time to do the will of God in evangelism, service, education, and training. Now is the time to believe, to trust, and to obey. Thus, Jesus taught us to watch. Such watchfulness involves preparation for the tasks at hand now and in the future to come.

Someone has pointed out that there are three things you can never recall — the sped arrow, the spoken word, and the lost opportunity. The bridesmaids learned the hard way that there are no second opportunities. It could be that God is holding back your moment of destiny to give you an opportunity to get ready.

The only way to prepare for tomorrow is to face honestly and bravely the living of each day as we come to it. As we take Christ as Saviour and begin to live daily the victorious Christian life, we are storing up oil in our lamps for the coming of our Lord.

There are some things you cannot obtain from someone else at the time of need. Dr. Charles Allen has said that courage, faith, and character in the hour of opportunity cannot be obtained from someone else. Each time I express faith in God, I am storing it up to be used again. Each time I face life triumphantly over temptations, I am preparing for my great moment.

Hearing Loss is not
a Sign of Old Age

Prayer Lift For Pastors: March 7-13

MARCH 7

Grenada

Jim Gore, Hardy
D. L. Edwards, Holcomb
Buster Thomas, LeFlore
Winford McInnis, Providence

Gulf Coast

Tom Gautier, Bayou View

MARCH 8

Allen Stephens, Bay Vista
Thomas McNair, Bay View
Julian Burt, Big Level
Robert Carlisle, Big Ridge
Ellis Jones, Bond

MARCH 9

Stanley File, Broadmoor
Tracy Martin, Calvary
Buddy Beam, Commission Road
Frank Lieker, Delisle Mission
Richard Frees, East Howard

MARCH 10

Joe Ivey, Emmanuel
J. D. Aycock, Eastside
Randall Pruett, Fernwood
James Haynes, Forest Avenue
John Traylor, Gulfport, First

March 11

Nathan Barber, Bay St. Louis, 1st
James Johnson, D'Iberville, 1st
Frank Gunn, Biloxi, 1st
A. H. Weger, Lyman, 1st
Talmadge Rayborn, Pass Christian, 1st

March 12

James Rasberry, Southern, 1st
Lee Burns, Waveland, 1st
James Street, Wiggins, 1st
James Futral, Grace Memorial
W. T. Miller, West Gulfport

March 13

Bill Anderson, Gulf Gardens
Lester McNair, Gulfport Heights
James Ham, Handsboro
Robert Darby, Highland
R. H. Crawley, Lakeshore

Crowder Church Deacon Dies

On February 2, 1976, death claimed John Orion Wood, 80, for many years a deacon of Crowder Baptist Church. He was a faithful Christian in witness and example, being dedicated in his services to Christ, church, home, and fellowman. He served for 25 years as mayor of Crowder.

Charles Stubblefield, and Truman Scarborough officiated in the memorial service at Crowder Church, Feb. 4, with interment in Marks Cemetery.

MC Plans "Discovery Day" For
Considering Church Vocations



New Albany Boy Scouts In Nation's Top 10

First Church, New Albany, observed Scout Sunday on February 8. Their guest was "Smokey" Eggars of Nashville, Executive for Baptist Scouting and outstanding Christian laymen. Mr. Eggars announced that First Church, New Albany, was in the top ten churches in the nation in giving God and Country awards. A total of 56 has been awarded in the past five years. The following boys received the God and Country awards; left to right: Scoutmaster Lewis Rosenthal, Bill Rosenthal, Jeff Fitzgerald, Scott Clayton, W. F. Evans, pastor, Smokey Eggars; Back row—Jeff Pannell, Keith Conlee, Danny Kelly and Jimmy Barimore.

Dr. Landrum Leavell To Return For Union Homecoming



March 7th will be Homecoming Day at Union Church in Magnolia. Dr. Landrum Leavell, former pastor, and president of New Orleans Seminary, will be guest speaker.

In Sunday School a goal of 100 has been set and Rev. Roger W. Wilkins, pastor, invites members and former members to help reach this goal. Morning worship will begin at 11 with Dr. Leavell as the speaker, followed by dinner on the ground.

An old time sing will begin at 1:15; then Dr. Leavell will speak again. All offerings received during the day will be put into the education building fund.

MBEYA, Tanzania — Dr. Robert G. Laffoon, missionary physician at the Baptist hospital here, has successfully completed the requirements and has been certified as a general surgeon by the American Board of Surgery.

MC Spring Band Concert March 6

Glenn Triplett, Jr., Director of Bands, announces the annual spring concert of the Mississippi College Symphonic Band will be Saturday, March 6, in Province Chapel on the college campus.

The concert is open to the public and is free of charge. It will begin at 8 p.m.

The program will consist of a wide selection of numbers to include "The American Civil War Fantasy", by Bilik, "Finlandia" by Sibelius, "Americans We" by Filmore.

Among the special features on the program will be Ian Richardson of Leland, playing the Morceau Symphonique, a solo for Euphonium and band. He is the son of Dr. and Mrs. James Richardson, First Baptist in Leland.

The trumpet section of the band will be featured in Albert O. Davis' Cascading Trumpets. Billy Trotter will join the band at the organ for the English composition of Haydn Wood, "Mannin Veen". Mr. Trotter is assistant professor of Music and college organist.

First Church, Laurel To Sponsor March Family Life Conference

A Family Life Conference will be sponsored by First Church of Laurel on March 19 and 20.

Dr. William Denham will be the leader. Dr. Denham, former pastor of First Church, Austin, Texas, is presently director of First Church, Austin, Texas, is presently director of the Counseling and Pastoral Care Center of Austin. He is affiliated with the American Association of Marriage and Family Counselors, the American Association of Pastoral Counselors, and the International Transactional Analysis Association, Inc.

Scheduled conferences will include something special for all age groups. Each session is to meet in the First Baptist Church.

Friday, March 19:

7 a.m. — Men's Prayer Breakfast; devotional, Chapel.

10 a.m. — Mother's Morning Out: "Woman — Housewife, Lover, Career?" (Nursery Provided) Chapel.

12 noon — Brotherhood Luncheon: "It Takes A Man To Be A Man," Fellowship Hall.

4 p.m. — Young People: "Teenagers — Coping With Peers, Family and Self" — Home of Dr. and Mrs. Tillery.

7:30 p.m. — Adult I, II, III Couples: "How to Fight Fair," Chapel (coffee and cake).

Saturday, March 20:

10:00 a.m. — Single Adults: "Coping Better and Enjoying Life More," Chapel.

12 Noon — Adult IV: "Retirement — Creative Years Lived Creatively," Chapel; "Brown-Bag-Bring-Your-Own-Lunch" (Drinks and Desert provided), Fellowship Hall.

Interested participants in the Family Life Conference should get in touch with Darrel Baergen, minister of activities, at First Baptist Church (Telephone: 428-8404).

"In a time when apathy and discontent and strife mark the moral

fiber of many families in our neighborhoods," says Mr. Baergen, "this conference offers affirmation and hope found in Jesus Christ. Plan to be a part of these exciting and meaningful seminars."

"InfoDial" Service To Be Continued

"InfoDial," the toll free telephone service of the Annuity Board, will be continued indefinitely, according to Board President Darold H. Morgan of Dallas.

The same toll free numbers will be continued in 1976. For all states in the continental US, the number is 800-527-4787. For callers dialing within Texas, it is 800-482-2182.

Devotional

Reproof: Christian's Responsibility

By John Barnes III, Pastor, Antioch, Prentiss
Ephesians 5:11-13

What would you do if you heard a Christian gossiping, saw a Christian taking advantage of someone in business, heard someone using God's name in vain, or knew a brother or sister who was living in sin? Some of us, assuming that what was happening was none of our business, would do nothing. We might think, "He shouldn't do that, but that's between God and him." Some of us may respond in this way, but if we do we are disobeying the teachings of the Bible.

It is our duty to correct a fellow believer when he strays from the ways of God. The Bible uses a variety of words such as reprove, rebuke, reprimand, admonish, and reproof in regard to our responsibility to an erring Christian. When we see sin in the life of a believer, we are to point it out and to encourage him to turn from it.

We are all aware that God expects us as individuals to live holy and righteous lives. We know that we should never lie, gossip, use God's name in vain, or permit any sin to remain in our lives. But let us hear and follow the message well! We are responsible to lovingly help our brother become free from sin, too. We are our brother's keeper as well as the keepers of our own souls.

A prominent seminary professor tells of a fellow professor who became angry with him and sought to discredit him before others. He went to his erring friend with a deep sense of responsibility and said, "I love you, and I won't let you do this to yourself." The man repented and forgiveness followed.

A well-known Baptist evangelist was conducting a revival in our state. While he was having his hair cut, his barber, not knowing who he was, began to use God's name in vain. The evangelist jumped out of the chair and said, "Hold on there! You're talking about a friend of mine."

These men were doing what every one of us should do. They were pointing out sin and encouraging the sinner to turn from it.

The Old And The New At Silver Springs

Dedication services were held at Silver Springs (Pike) Feb. 8, for the new pastorium, top photo, which replaces the old, bottom photo. Members of the church did most of the carpenter work on the three-bedroom brick home. The pastor's family and building committee are shown on the first row, l to r: Mrs. Larry Sweat, Rev. Larry Sweat, pastor, Paula and Larry Sweat, Jr., E. J. Bond, chairman, Jerry Bullock, Clay Schilling, Mrs. Evelyn Schilling, Mrs. Zaida Fortenberry, and Billy Joe Fortenberry (not pictured).

Room On "The Mountain"

Rankin Couple Offers Free Space To Churches For Camping, Retreats

Howard and Sally Stevens are offering free for use by church groups a room on "The Mountain," at their home beside a lake in Rankin County.

The large room at the back of the Stevens' home will seat approximately fifty people. R. A.'s, Scouts, G.A.'s, Acteens, Sunday School groups or others could bring their sleeping bags and stay overnight or longer, for lock-ins, retreats, or prayer meetings. If they prefer, they can camp on the levee beside the lake. It's a good spot for hiking.

"The Mountain" is located three miles south of Pelahatchie. "You take I-30 from Jackson and turn off on Exit 24."

Mississippi College students have agreed to help plan and conduct lock-in programs. Bradley Pope, Baptist student director at the college, has volunteered the services of a special BSU team for this project.

Howard and Sally Stevens, members of the Pinelake Baptist Church on the Ross Barnett Reservoir (Rev. Gary Watkins, pastor), say, "God put us here to share it with you!" They named "The Mountain" from a recorded message by Baptist evangelist Bill Stafford, "I Want That Mountain," based on Joshua 14.

"The Room" is for use by reservation only, and with one group at a time. Contact Howard and Sally Stevens at Route 1, Box 188, Brandon, Ms. 39042 (phone 901-354-9814).

The Stevens hope in future to add gentle horses with saddles, folding chairs, large bean bags, trampolines, etc. They say, "We are trusting God to provide."

CBS President — (Continued from page 5)

The late Edward R. Murrow of CBS was posthumously awarded Communications Medal for the impact on radio and television programming which he made as "a broadcaster without peer."

Sharing top Abe Lincoln Awards honors were Leo L. Beranek of Boston's WCVB-TV and Robert Hyland of St. Louis KMOX.

Lee Allan Smith of WKY Radio in Oklahoma City, Okla., who won the Abe Lincoln Bicentennial Award, and Stan Freberg of Beverly Hills, Calif.

Former Staff, Others Invited To Robinson Street Celebration

Former staff members, former members, and friends of Robinson Street Church, Jackson are invited to share in the church's 25th anniversary celebration on Sunday, March 7.

At the 10:55 a.m. service, special recognition will be given to those involved in the organization of the church 25 years ago, and members in places of leadership and service today. Also testimonies will be heard from some of those who have come to know

Christ as Savior as a result of the ministry of this church.

The evening service at 7 will be a multimedia presentation on the past and present life of the church. Fellowship hour will follow the service.

Rev. Leonard Holloway was founder and first pastor of the church. Rev. John G. McDonald, pastor since 1953, will bring the message for this 25th anniversary service.

Paul Church To Dedicate Organ

Paul Church (Tallahatchie) will dedicate a new Baldwin church organ in memory of Mrs. Alene Taylor, in a special service Sunday, March 7, at 2:30 p.m. Gene Aldridge, organist at First Church, Greenwood, will present special music.

On February 29, Paul Church had 100 in Sunday School, the highest Sunday School attendance in the history of the church, according to the Rev. Claude Wiltshire, pastor.

Physical Ed. And Sport Week Proclaimed

Johnnie Armstrong (right), president of the Mississippi Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation and a member of the faculty at Blue Mountain College, examines a proclamation recently signed by Gov. Cliff Finch including Mississippi in national observance of Physical Education and Sport Week, March 1-7. Looking on with Miss Armstrong are BMC health and physical education majors Tami Butler (left), a freshman from Pontotoc and Sue Love, a senior from Falkner.

Off The Record

"Don't count us," said the lady to the officer making a road survey. "We'll be coming back in a few minutes when my husband admits he's going in the wrong direction."

A group of youngsters in a California school were told to draw the pictures for Christmas cards they would give their parents, but to copy the verse from a card they found at home.

That's why one mother and father received this greeting from their daughter: "It's been a pleasure to do business with you."

Sometimes mothers of small children get into the habit of fussing without even thinking. A mother, whose daughter was playing on the beach, shouted irritably, "Laura, stop that! You're tracking sand into the ocean!"

Lady Driver to friend: "The thing I dislike about parking is the noisy crash."

A man was sick, awfully sick, and he consulted his doctor. After a careful examination, the doctor said, "The best thing for you, sir, is to give up smoking and drinking."

"What's the next best thing?" he asked.



The levee at the end of the lake furnishes a good spot for camp-outs.



"The Room on the Mountain" will seat around fifty people.



The home of Howard and Sally Stevens is on "The Mountain."

A large lake is part of the Stevens' property.

CORRECTION ON FILLER: The February 28 Baptist Record carried a filler stating that the oldest living thing in the world is a 46-year-old bristle-cone pine in the White Mountains of California. That age should have been 4800!

World Vision International has disclosed that its program budget this year would total more than \$20 million. The amount represents an increase of about 35 percent over 1975.



1st, Benndale Calls McWilliams

First Church, Benndale, has called as pastor the Rev. William A. McWilliams. He moved to the new field of service from Jones County.

Mr. McWilliams and his wife are pictured above with their children, David, Laurie, Richard, Ginger, and Sherrie.

Louisiana College Gets \$250,000 Memorial Gift

PINEVILLE, La. (BP) — Louisiana College, a Baptist school here, received a \$250,000 memorial gift here during the school's homecoming, according to Robert L. Lynn, college president. Two of the donors are Mississippians.

The gift was made in honor of the late Stephen Madison and Jewell Clements English of Lisbon in Claiborne Parish, La., by the couple's five children, all former Louisiana College students. They are Madge English Stack and Fred English, both of Meridian, Miss.; Donna English Walker of Crowley, La.; and Nedra English McDonald and Max English, both of Lisbon.